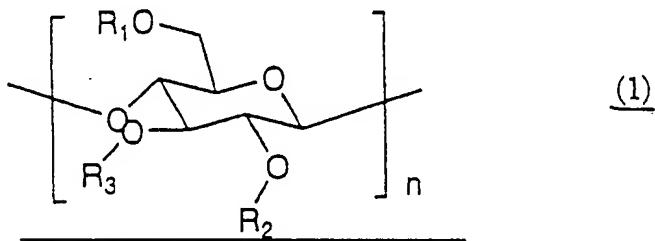


Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims

1. (Currently amended) A liquid crystal mixed-composition comprising ~~one or more the cellulose derivative derivatives~~ and ~~one or more liquid crystal compounds which has the following structure:~~



wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub>, which may be the same or different,  
respectively represent a member selected from the group  
consisting of a hydrogen atom, an acyloxyalkyl group and a  
carbamoyloxyalkyl group, provided that R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are not  
all hydrogen atoms and n denotes an integer of 10 or more;  
and one or more liquid crystal compounds which can be  
oriented in a specific direction differing from that of  
said cellulose derivative.

2. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 1, wherein the ratio by weight of said ~~one or more~~ cellulose derivative and ~~derivatives to~~ said one or more liquid crystal compounds which can be oriented in a specific direction differing from ~~that of said the~~ cellulose derivative is in a range from 1:9 to 9:1.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to ~~claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein the liquid crystal compound which can be oriented ~~in another to the~~ specific direction is a low-molecular liquid crystal compound having a molecular weight of 1000 or less.

6. (Original) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 5, wherein the low-molecular liquid crystal compound is a (meth)acrylate liquid crystal compound.

7. (Original) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 6, wherein the (meth)acrylate liquid

crystal compound is an acrylate compound represented by the following formula (2):  $H_2C=CHCOO-(X)_n-O-Y-Z$

wherein X represents a methylene group which may be substituted with a methyl group or a phenyl group, Y represents a divalent group in which two to four rings selected from the group consisting of a benzene ring and a cyclohexane ring are ~~connected~~ bonded by a single bond or a connecting group, where these rings may be respectively substituted with one or two C1-C6 alkyl groups or phenyl groups and Z represents a cyano group, an aliphatic group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms, an aliphatic oxy group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms or  $-O-(X)_n-OCOCH=CH_2$ .

8. (Currently amended) A lyotropic liquid crystal mixed-composition ~~comprising wherein the lyotropic liquid crystal~~ comprises the mixed-composition according to as claimed in any one of claim 1 or 2, claims 1 to 7 and an organic solvent, ~~the composition exhibiting and exhibits~~ a lyotropic liquid crystal state.

9. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 8, wherein the composition further ~~comprising~~ comprises a reactive compound and a photoinitiator.

10. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim & 9, wherein the reactive compound is a (meth)acryl compound.

11. (Currently amended) A retardation film produced from the liquid crystal mixed-composition ~~as claimed in~~ according to any one of claims 1 to 10 claim 1 or 2, wherein the liquid crystal mixed-composition is oriented in a specific direction.

12. (Original) The retardation film according to claim 11, wherein the relation  $Re_{450} \leq Re_{550} \leq Re_{650}$  is established between the retardation value ( $Re_{450}$ ) measured at a wavelength of 450 nm, the retardation value ( $Re_{550}$ ) measured at a wavelength of 550 nm and the retardation value ( $Re_{650}$ ) measured at a wavelength of 650 nm.

13. (Currently amended) The retardation film according to claim 11~~or 12~~, wherein the film ~~being~~ is produced by forming a layer of the liquid crystal mixed-composition ~~as~~ claimed in according to any one of claims 1 to 10 claim 1 or 2 on the rubbed a rubbing treatment substrate ~~and by~~ orienting for orientation of the liquid crystal.

14. (Currently amended) The retardation film according to claim 13, wherein the orientation of the liquid crystal mixed-composition is fixed.

15. (Currently amended) The retardation film according to claim 11, wherein the film having has a retardation of a quarter wavelength or a half wavelength.

16. (Currently amended) A circularly or elliptically polarizing film or a ~~rotary~~ rotatory polarizing film obtained by laminating the retardation film ~~as claimed in any one of according to claim claims 11 to 15~~ and a polarizing film.

17. (Currently amended) An image display device ~~comprising having~~ the retardation film as claimed in ~~any one of claims according to claim 11 to 15 or the circularly or elliptically polarizing film as claimed in claim 16.~~

18. (Currently amended) A method of producing a the retardation film according to claim 13, ~~the method comprising characterized by forming a layer using with~~ the liquid crystal mixed-composition ~~as claimed in according to~~

~~any one of claims 1 to 10 claim 1 or 2 on a rubbed rubbing treatment~~ substrate, followed by heat treatment.

19. (Original) The method of producing a retardation film according to claim 18, wherein the relation  $Re_{450} \leq Re_{550} \leq Re_{650}$  is established between the retardation value ( $Re_{450}$ ) measured at a wavelength of 450 nm, the retardation value ( $Re_{550}$ ) measured at a wavelength of 550 nm and the retardation value ( $Re_{650}$ ) measured at a wavelength of 650 nm by carrying out heat treatment at 40°C. to 100°C.

20. (New) An image display device having the circularly or elliptically polarizing film or the rotatory polarizing film according to claim 16.